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## INDIA.

*Report from Calcutta—Cholera, plague, and smallpox.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Eakins reports, May 30:

Week ended May 18, 1907. 56 deaths from cholera, 203 from plague, and 34 from smallpox in Calcutta.

In Bengal, during the same week, 1,750 cases and 1,730 deaths from plague.

In India during the week ended May 11, 1907, there were 91,275 cases and 82,400 deaths from plague, and during the week ended May 18, 1907, 77,005 cases and 67,681 deaths from plague.

*Plague mortality in India—Plague epidemic in the Punjab—Epidemic cholera in Kashmir.*

The following is received from Consul-General Michael, at Calcutta, under dates of May 7 and 29:

Plague cases increase rapidly in number in February, or toward the end of the cold weather, continue to increase through March, and reach the maximum death rate in April, generally in the last week. From that date a decline in the number of cases and deaths should be perceptible, and the decline should continue during the hot, dry weather of June and July. This year has been, so far, an exceptional one. The rise in mortality from plague has gone on with terrible strides and is still raging.

It is believed by officials who have had long and varied experience in India that the reported deaths from plague do not cover more than 60 per cent of the actual number.

The Punjab is the plague center in India at this writing. In some places it is raging to such an extent as to stop government public works. On the head works of the Jhelum Canal 1,000 coolies were discharged last week on account of the plague, and the work on the head works stopped. The population of Rusval Punjab was 1,000 two weeks ago; now it is less by 300, that number having died within a few days. It was reported that the remainder were abandoning the village huts and seeking shelter. Five corpses were buried together in one hole in the ground, and others were abandoned by their friends who left them and fled. Deplorable conditions exist in some localities on account of the ravages of the disease.

*May 17.*—Cholera continues to be epidemic in Kashmir at this date. Two hundred and twelve new cases occurred during the week ended May 17. Of these fresh cases 148 died. The total number of cases reported since the disease broke out is 7,089, and 3,853 deaths.

*May 27.*—For the week ended May 11 reports show a diminution of plague, except in the Punjab, where the disease still rages furiously, the deaths having risen from 51,305 to 60,486 from the previous week ended May 4. In Bombay, Madras, Bengal, and the United Provinces the decrease of the fatal cases during the same period was from 19,982 to 17,057. The deaths during the week were fewer in Burma, Central Provinces, Hyderabad State, and Kashmir. Increase is reported in Mysore State, central India, Rajputana, and

the Northwest Provinces, but the total increase amounted to only 163. The total deaths for all India was 82,400, as against 77,216 for the previous week. The plague center is in the Punjab.

During the 6 weeks ended May 11, 1907, the total number of deaths reported throughout India was 451,802, or nearly a half million. During the same period the total number of deaths from plague in the Punjab was 286,777.

#### ITALY.

##### *Report from Naples—Smallpox on steamship Perugia—Status of smallpox in Italy.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon McLaughlin reports, June 13:

A well-marked case of smallpox was detected at the final inspection of the steerage passengers for the steamship *Perugia*, June 13, 1907. The case came from Ferrara, northern Italy, and had been in Naples in one of the emigrant boarding houses less than 24 hours. It was turned over to the local health authorities, and 53 probable contacts were isolated in the boarding house, to be held under guard for a period of 14 days. The house was thoroughly disinfected. Disinfection of the emigrants' baggage was rigorously enforced and a careful supervision of the vaccination exercised. The captain was instructed to have the ship's doctor revaccinate, after 4 days at sea, all persons not showing positive results of the previous vaccination.

The facts were carefully noted on the bill of health for the information of the quarantine officer, port of New York.

*Smallpox.*—Week ended June 13, 1907. Cases: Ventimiglia (Porto Maurizio) 8, Bologna 4, Castel San Pietro 7, Budrio 1, Molinella (Bologna) 1, Pesaro 1, Serrungarina 1, Penmebilli (Pesaro) 4, Lucoi (Aquila) 1, Sciacca (Girgenti) 1.

#### MEXICO.

##### *Reports from Veracruz—Inspection and fumigation of vessels—Case of enteric fever from steamship Wanderer—Mosquitoes.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Frick reports, June 10 and 17:

Week ended June 8, 1907: June 3—Inspected the British steamship *Ottawa*, bound for Philadelphia, with 32 in the crew; vessel sails in ballast. June 5—Fumigated the Norwegian steamship *City of Mexico*, bound for New Orleans via Tampico, with 21 in the crew; vessel sails in the remainder of an American general cargo; time of last exposure, 2.10 p. m. June 6—Inspected the British steamship *Wanderer*, bound for Pensacola via Coatzacoalcas, with 37 in the crew; vessel sails in the remainder of a European cargo, Inspected the American steamship *Merida*, bound for New York via Progreso and Habana, with 130 in the crew, 81 cabin and 16 steerage passengers; vessel sails in general cargo. June 7—Fumigated the French steamship *Mexico*, bound for New Orleans via Tampico, with 61 in the crew, 2 cabin and 9 steerage passengers; vessel sails in the remainder of a European cargo; time of the last exposure, 5.20 p. m. June 8—Fumigated the British steamship *Cayo Largo*,